

[For the Yeoman.]

Our Opposition friends are very much

troubled about our county precinct bill. They

think it exceedingly hard that men living near

the town should ride five or six miles in the

country to vote. Have they forgotten that

when they had the power a few years ago

they would not allow a single voting place in

the county, but compelled every voter to ride

to the Court-house here in Frankfort to cast

his vote; and never, until forced by the new

Constitution, would they make a precinct out-

side of the town. This bill is all right; most

of these men are being placed back to the coun-

try precincts where they originally belonged.

The K. N.'s, when they had the power,

brought them into the town precinct with-

out the knowledge or consent of the Demo-

crats, and we want them placed where they

Remarks of GEORGE M. THOMAS, of Lewis county, in the House of Representatives, February 10th, 1860, upon the bill submitting to the people the propriety and expediency of imposing an additional tax of three cents for school purposes:

MR. SPEAKER.—The bill under consideration requires the sheriff and other officers conducting the annual election to be held on the first Monday in August, 1860, to open a poll in the various precincts in their respective counties, and take the vote of the qualified voters in the Commonwealth upon the property tax and the expediency of imposing an additional tax of three cents on each \$100 worth of property in the State, for the purpose of increasing the common school fund of Kentucky. I should not have asked leave to bring in this bill if I had thought that the people of Kentucky were not in favor of an additional tax for school purposes. I am satisfied that the people of Kentucky are in favor of an additional tax for school purposes. I came to that conclusion from the votes that the people have heretofore given upon propositions of a similar character to the one under consideration.

In 1848 the people of the State voted upon the proposition of imposing a tax of two cents on each \$100 worth of property in the State for the purpose of increasing the school fund. The proposition was carried by a very large majority. In the year 1855 the people voted upon a similar proposition, imposing an additional tax of three cents for common school purposes. That proposition was carried by over sixty thousand majority—there being over ninety thousand votes in favor of the additional tax, and only thirty thousand against it. Upon an examination of the vote of the various counties, it will be seen that all the counties in the State, with the exception of some three or four, voted in favor of the three cent tax. Thus it will be seen that Jefferson county, which is the richest and most populous county in the State, gave the largest vote, and the largest majority in favor of the three cent tax of any county in the State. That county gave 3,462 votes in favor, and only 227 against the tax. In 1848 the county gave 1,637 in favor, and 370 against the two cent tax. The county of Fayette, which is so ably represented upon this floor, is the next richest county in the State. That county gave 1,577 votes in favor, and only 510 against the three cent tax—being over one thousand majority in favor of the tax—Campbell county gave 1,230 votes in favor, and only 63 against the three cent tax. Kenton county gave 3,066 in favor, and 317 against the tax. Madison county gave 1,238 votes in favor of the tax, and 56 against it. Fleming county gave 1,391 in favor, and only 340 against the tax. Greenup county gave 1,111 in favor, and only 35 against the tax. Lewis county gave 1,233 in favor, and 96 against the tax. Madison county gave 1,512 in favor, and 292 against the tax. Morgan county gave 1,340 in favor, and only 5 against it. In 1848 Morgan county gave 255 in favor, and 619 against the tax. Floyd county, in 1855, gave 911 in favor, and only 8 against the tax. In 1848 Floyd gave 410 for, and 211 against the tax—Lawrence county gave 1,490 for, and only 36 against the three cent tax. Scott county gave 1,245 in favor, and 910 against the tax. "Pulaski gave 1,255 in favor, and 392 against the tax. Perry 311 in favor, and 8 against the tax. Knox 915 in favor, 31 against. Johnson 613 for, and 25 against. Franklin 1,217 for, and 359 against. Bourbon 771 for, 575 against. Wayne 1,017 for, and 231 against. I refer to the vote to show that those who are in taxation for school purposes are, as a general rule, in favor of a particular locality in the State. It also appears that the richest, as well as the poorest counties in the State, are in favor of taxation for common school purposes.

For the purpose of public instruction, I believe that every man ought to be subject to taxation in proportion to his property, and we ought not to look at the question whether he have or have not a vote, but whether he is able to pay the tax which he pays. I regard it as a wise and liberal system of policy, by which life and property and the peace of society are secured. It is the pride and boast of our noble system of government, that each citizen, at the ballot box, possesses equal rights of sovereignty with every other one. Therefore how important it is that the great mass of the people of this State be educated so that each may be able to read and understand for himself the history and constitution of his country, and to decide for himself what are the true principles and policy of his own government.

I am satisfied that the present school tax is insufficient. The income from all sources ought to be sufficient to teach a six months' school in every district in the State. The additional tax proposed in this bill will increase the fund sufficient to teach a six months' school in a large majority of the districts.

The estimated income of the school fund for the year 1859, from all sources, was \$345,796.41, being made up as follows: The amount drawn from the present five cent school tax brings \$225,802.91; the amount drawn from the bonds brings \$97,013.50; the amount from tax on shares of the Bank and Bank of Ashland, brings about \$11,700; and on the 425 shares of the capital stock of the Bank of Kentucky, \$12,000; which amount is to be expended for schools taught in the year 1859. The amount of money expended in the year 1848 for school purposes in the State was only \$18,000. The annual increase in the amount of the money expended exhibits an admirable prospect for the school fund, and shows that our school system is rapidly advancing.

It must be admitted that the system of education in our State is in a highly flourishing condition. Thus it will appear that in 1848 there were returned to the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction in all 31,501 children within school age; and in 1859 there were reported the unprecedented number of 967,712, making the increase in ten years 236,211!

Some gentlemen object to submitting the proposition to the people; they say that the present tax is sufficient; they say, also, that the people are opposed to more taxation for school purposes, and that the rich counties have to pay for the education of the children of the people of the mountains.

In answer to the first objection, I would state that it is evident to every person that the present school tax is insufficient, because the income from the school fund will not teach a three months' school. The funds ought to be large enough to teach a six months' school in every district in the State. All I have to say in answer to the second objection is, that if the people are opposed to the proposition, they will vote it down. As to the third objection, it is true that the rich counties in the State pay into the Treasury more school money than they draw out; and that the mountain counties get the benefit of the money they pay. I find, upon examining the Auditor's report for 1858, that the number of pupils in the State without property is 145,419, having 35,211 children. Now I would ask, what is the interest of the people of this State that these 35,211 children should be brought up in ignorance and vice? The number of parents in the State worth less than \$100 is 7,091, having 19,591 children. The knowledge of a people is always in proportion to their liberty, and it is equally true in proportion to their wealth; and it is also in proportion to their knowledge, and the more knowledge a people have, the more powerful and happy will they become.

I hope to live to see the day when every poor man in this glorious old Commonwealth can call all property his own so far as he has occasion for it to furnish for himself and his children the elements of knowledge and blessings of religious instruction. He ought to be entitled to this celestial and earthly light by the laws of the country. It ought to be every poor man's consolation in death that his country stands pledged to protect his children from barbarity, ignorance, and vice.

It is the first duty of a great State, to see that the children of her people are educated. It has been the policy of the government to compel every man, whose education depends upon the intelligence and virtue of her people. It is the interest of every rich man that the children of the poor should be educated. When these children arrive at the age of manhood, they possess equal rights of sovereignty at the ballot-box with the children of the rich man. In Wirtland, Bavaria, and other European countries, the government compels every man to send his children to school from the age of six to

thirteen years and thence. From the peasant to the King you find every individual, with few exceptions, can read and write. Can it be said that every individual in Kentucky, from the peasant to the Governor, can read and write? It cannot be said, but I hope the time will soon arrive when every individual in Kentucky can read and write. It is impossible to estimate the beneficial consequences that will result from the establishment of a good and efficient system of education. The only sure foundation of permanent and real improvement is in the organization of a good system of education.

The present five cent tax will produce this year about \$250,000, and that amount will annually increase, as the taxable property of the State increases. If the proposition under consideration is carried by the people, the three cent tax proposed will produce about \$150,000 annually—making \$400,000 raised by taxation, to which must be added the \$90,713.50 arising annually from interest on State bonds, &c., making in all about \$490,713.50 to be distributed annually in the State for the education of the children of the people.

The gentleman from Fayette, Mr. Buckner, proposes to repeal the law establishing the Normal School at Lexington. I was opposed to the original law, believed it unconstitutional; am still of that opinion. If the amendment is adopted, the people will reject the proposition by thousands of majority. I am satisfied the people will vote in favor of the proposition by a large majority, if it is not clogged by unpopular and unnecessary amendments.

I am opposed to the amendment offered by the gentleman from Union, (Mr. McElroy). The amendment, if adopted, cannot be carried out. How can the sheriff retain the money when he is required to pay the money into the treasury in December. The Superintendent of Public Instruction does not have his report until the 15th of February. The County Commissioners do not make their report to the Superintendent until 15th of January. If we can the Sheriff retain the money in December when the amount is not ascertained till in February. The amendment requires the Superintendent to make his report the 15th of December of each year. How can he make his report in December when he does not receive the County Commissioners' reports until the 15th of February afterwards. The amendment, if adopted, cannot be carried out. It distracts all the school laws. Who is it that are introducing these amendments to the bill? Is it the friends of the bill who wish to attach provisions to the bill that would render it odious before the people, and thereby secure its defeat? I am opposed to all amendments, and I hope the friends of the measure will vote to th in all down. I shall vote for the bill here, and it submitted to the people, I shall vote in favor of the proposition at the ballot-box.

The gentleman from Bracken, Mr. Cleveland, proposes to amend the bill by adding "such additional tax shall not be levied, unless a majority of all the qualified voters of the Commonwealth, as shown by the Auditor's report of the year 1857, shall have voted in favor thereof at said election." If 75,000 persons vote in favor of the proposition, and 25,000 against it, then, according to the above provision, the tax shall not be levied, although the proposition has carried by 50,000 majority. The elections in 1860 are not general, being for sheriffs, &c., and therefore a full vote will not be cast. The bill, as it is, is the original bill; to take the vote in 1861, when a general vote would be cast. However, I believe the proposition will carry at any election.

AN ACT to define the Magistrates' districts in

Franklin county, and to regulate election pre-

cincts and places of voting therein:

Enacted by the General Assembly of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky, That the bound-

ary of magistrates' district No. 1, in the coun-

ty of Franklin, is established as follows, to wit: Be-

ginning at the city limits of Frankfort, on the

Frankfort and Versailles turnpike road; thence

with said turnpike road to the fork of the road in

intersection of the Georgetown and the Versailles

turnpike roads; thence with the Versailles turn-

pike to Vaughn's old lane; thence with said lane

it passes the farms of John Carter and Thos.

Jett; thence to the Versailles turnpike road, to the

point where it strikes the line between the coun-

ties of Franklin and Woodford, excluding the

farm of said Carter and Jett, and Adam W.

Cromwell; thence with the Woodford county line

to the Kentucky river; thence down said river to

the city limits; thence running around with the

limits of the city of Frankfort, so far as to in-

clude said city in this district, to the beginning.

§ 2. Magistrates' district No. 1 is hereby

divided into two election precincts, as follows:

First part of said district north of Montgomery

avenue, and the second part south of said avenue;

and that part of said district north of said

avenue, and that part of said district south of

said avenue, shall constitute another precinct; but

said two precincts shall constitute but one

magistrate's district. The voting place in the

precinct north of said avenue shall be at the

warehouse, near the Penitentiary; and in the precinct

south of said avenue, the voting place shall be

at the Court-house.

§ 3. That the boundary of district No. 2, is

hereby changed as follows, viz: Beginning on the

Frankfort and Versailles turnpike road, at the

city limits of Frankfort, thence with the line of

district No. 1 to where it strikes the Woodford

county line; thence with the Woodford line to

the Scott county line; thence with the Scott line

to the O. O. Stout's thence to Will's Branch; thence

with a straight line to A. G. Carter's, including

said Stout, Baker, and Carter; thence with a

straight line to the residence of the late Dr.

Wm. Gayle, excluding his residence; thence with the

ACTIVE EXERCISE BY LADIES.—The Philadelphia Bulletin ridicules the idea among women of skating, and says, "they order things better abroad. Ladies of established position, whose genuine modesty to no one would think of questioning, and who belong to families which have been the best in the country for hundreds of years, engaged in robust exercises for which many of our so-called ladies would shrink from as vulgar. They drive spirited horses along the beautiful lanes, and by the blossoming hedges rows of merry England. They ride on horseback with brilliant cavalades to visit all the spots sacred to historic tale and old romance. They think nothing, even a Lady Arabella or an Honorable Geraldine, of walking five miles in the country, suitably dressed and booted for the purpose. They are skilled in archery. Some of them even ride over the bounds, and handle their aristocratic hands by rowing pleasure boats in a style that would exultate the hearts of our whole Schuylkill fleet."

The last accounts from Utah say that

things were growing worse and worse. The

Mormons were getting to be little better than

a horde of thieves. The Gentiles could keep

nothing moveable without standing guard over

it. Young's doctrine on the subject was thus

defined in a late discourse: "I have had no

revelation in regard to the stealing that is going

on in this Territory. When the Lord wants

it stopped, He will stop it! I believe that a

man can steal and be justified in the act."

Dr. Bull has certainly achieved an enviable

success, producing from his laboratory a medicine

that is at once pleasant to the taste and at the

same time a prompt and sure remedy for worms.

His Vegetable Worm Destroyer combines these

properties in perfection.

Sold by W. H. Averill, for Frankfort and vic-

inity.

COURT OF APPEALS.

CAUSES DECIDED.

FRIDAY, Feb. 17, 1860.

Orlick's ex'rs v Peters, Frankfort, affirmed.

Herndon et al v Gray & George, Frankfort; reversed.

Millitt v Parker et al, Henderson, affirmed.

Trustees of Owensboro v Webb, Davies, reversed.

ORDERS.

Elder Backman's adm'r, Meade; leave to with-

draw original paper.

Fulwider v Hoane, Meade; same order.

Foreword v Gatewood's ex'rs et al, Montgomery;

leave to withdraw bills.

Berry v Helm, Breckinridge; n. p. in rem.

Berry v Hamilton, Bath; argument continued by

James for appellee.

Kentucky State Agricultural Society.

The next State Fair.

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the

State Agricultural Society, will be held at Frank-

